(d) if so, the per hectare of profits by cultivation on such land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) There is no study, which demonstrates that cultivation on most of the rain-fed lands is unremunerative. Rain-fed agriculture is dependent on Monsoon, which varies from year to year. In a year of deficient rainfall crop yields and farmers' incomes are adversely affected.

(b) Government of India has accorded high priority to improve production and productivity of rain-fed agricultural land through watershed development approach. Since 1991, the National Watershed Development Project for Rain-fed Areas (NWDPRA) is implemented in 28 States and two Union Territories.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Impact evaluation studies have been conducted in 109 watersheds assessing the impact of the above NWDPRA Scheme. The findings of the studies indicate that in the treated rain-fed areas, there is increase in ground-water recharge, increase in cropping intensity, enhancement in crop yield, change in cropping pattern towards higher value crops and increase in farmer's income.

Students in ICAR Agricultural Universities

1047. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agricultural universities under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) had admitted about 100 foreign students during the last year;

(b) whether ICAR has set up a target for increasing admissions of foreign students into its deemed universities by five times, over the next year;

(c) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard; and

(d) how many foreign students are studying in ICAR's deemed universities this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Efforts are underway to increase admission for foreign students.

(c) (i) Preparation and distribution of brochures giving details for different courses, eligibility, location and procedure to different Embassies in India and Indian Embassies and Commissions abroad.

(ii) Orientation programmes with different Embassies in India.

(iii) Development of International Hostels and facilities in Agricultural Universities.

(iv) Introduction of Deficiency Courses for developing proficiency in English language.

(d) 73.

Assistance under Agricultural Scheme to NGOs

†1048. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:
SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes being run by the Ministry of Agriculture under which financial assistance is provided to Non-Governmental Organisations;

(b) the details of funds allocated to Bihar and Chhattisgarh, organisation-wise and scheme-wise, during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide benefit of these schemes at village level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Bovine Development Scheme

†1049. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate or have formulated any rural development schemes for protecting, tending and breeding of bovine in different States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) A national Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding has been formulated and implemented from October, 2000 to provide Artificial Insemination services at door-steps of the farmers/

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.